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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<http://www.fws.gov>  
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Refuge Information  
1800/344 WILD

# Ruby Lake

## National Wildlife Refuge

### Wildlife Checklist

## A Refuge for Nesting and Migrating Waterfowl and Other Wildlife

Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1938. It encompasses 37,632 acres at the south end of Ruby Valley. The refuge is 16 miles long and over 3 miles at its widest point. This land was once covered by a 200-foot deep, 300,800 acre lake; today 17,000 acres of marsh remain on the refuge. To the north is a 15,000 acre seasonal wetland also attractive to wildlife, known as Franklin lake.

### *The Habitat*

The refuge, at an elevation of 6,000 feet, centers on an extensive bulrush marsh interspersed with pockets of open water. Islands scattered throughout provide good nesting habitat for many bird species. Over 160 springs flow into the marsh, some of which travel into the collection ditch along its west border. These water sources create riparian habitat which is used by many smaller birds and mammals. They also provide a water source for larger mammals.

With slight increases in elevation, meadows graduate into grasslands and shrub-steppe habitat. Pinyon pines and juniper cover the lower slopes of the Ruby Mountains that rise to 11,000 feet along the west side of the refuge. Limber pine, bristlecone pine, aspens and mountain mahogany forest the upper slopes. Canyons and rocky cliffs both provide nesting and perching habitat for various types of wildlife. A mountainside of dead trees, the result of a 1979 wildfire, is home for cavity dwelling birds.

## General Key

### *Habitat Codes*

The following symbols are used to indicate in which habitats each wildlife species would most likely be found. It is important to remember that use of an area may depend on the season and an animal's activity, especially for birds that are highly mobile.

- 1 - marsh, open water areas
- 2 - riparian areas
- 3 - meadows, grasslands
- 4 - shrub-steppe
- 5 - wooded areas
- 6 - canyons
- 7 - rocky areas, cliffs, caves
- 8 - montane
- 9 - buildings, residential areas
- 10 - widespread

### *Season*

- Sp - Spring (March - May)
- S - Summer (June - August)
- F - Fall (September - November)
- W - Winter (December - February)

### *Abundance*

- a- abundant; a common species which is very numerous
- c - common; certain to be seen in suitable habitat
- u - uncommon; present, but not certain to be seen
- o - occasional; seen only a few times during a season
- r - rare; known to be present but not every year
- \* - birds known to nest locally
- > - Federally Threatened/Endangered Species

## Birds at Ruby Lake

Bird life can be seen throughout all the habitat types, from the valley floor to the mountain peaks. The following bird list includes 225 species observed on the refuge, as well as on adjacent lands including the Humboldt National Forest, Bureau of Land Management lands, Franklin Lake Wildlife Management Area managed by the Nevada Division of Wildlife, and privately owned lands. In addition, 25 species are listed as accidentals because they have only been observed once or twice in the area.

The refuge is a significant waterfowl area in Nevada providing an important feeding and resting stop in the Pacific and Central Flyways. During summer, the marsh provides excellent habitat for nesting ducks including Canvasbacks and Red-heads as well as several colonial nesters: White-faced ibis, Great blue heron, Black-crowned night heron, Double-crested cormorant, and others. Greater sandhill cranes nest along the marsh's edge. Ducks and songbird species nest throughout the meadows, grasslands, and riparian areas. Trumpeter swans were introduced in the valley from Montana resulting in several pairs nesting on the refuge each year. Red-tailed hawks and Prairie falcons nest locally and forage on the refuge. An introduced gamebird, the Himalayan snocock, is found only on the alpine peaks of the Ruby Mountains.

Common names and taxonomic order follow the 6th Edition of the "AOU Checklist of North American Birds" (1983) including revisions contained in all supplements up to and including the 41st (1997).

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Loons</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Common Loon	1	r		r	
<b>Grebes</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Pied-billed grebe	1	c	c	c	u
<sup>1</sup> Horned grebe	1	o		o	
<sup>1</sup> *Eared grebe	1	c	c	c	u
<sup>1</sup> Western grebe	1	r	r	u	
<sup>1</sup> Clark's grebe	1	r	r		
<b>Pelicans</b>					
<sup>1</sup> American white pelican	1	o	u	u	
<b>Cormorants</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Double-crested cormorant	1	u	u	u	r
<b>Bitterns, Herons, and Egrets</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *American bittern	1	c	c	c	r
<sup>1</sup> *Great blue heron	1,2	c	c	c	c
<sup>1</sup> *Great egret	1,3	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> *Snowy egret	1,3	u	u	u	r
<sup>1</sup> *Cattle egret	3	u	u		
<sup>1</sup> Green heron	1, 2	r	r		
<sup>1</sup> *Black-crowned night heron	1,2	c	c	c	o
<b>Ibises and Spoonbills</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *White-faced ibis	1,3	c	a	c	r
<b>New World Vultures</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Turkey vulture	10	c	c	u	
<b>Swans, Geese, and Ducks</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Greater white-fronted goose	1	r			r
<sup>1</sup> Snow goose	1				o
<sup>1</sup> Ross's goose	1	r		r	
<sup>1</sup> *Canada goose	1,3	a	a	a	a
<sup>1</sup> *Trumpeter swan	1	u	u	u	u
<sup>1</sup> Tundra swan	1	o		u	u
<sup>1</sup> Wood duck	1,2			o	o
<sup>1</sup> *Gadwall	1	a	a	a	c
<sup>1</sup> *American widgeon	1	c	u	c	c
<sup>1</sup> *Mallard	1	a	a	a	c
<sup>1</sup> *Blue-winged teal	1	o	o	o	r
<b>Swans, Geese, and Ducks continued next page</b>					

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W	Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Swans, Geese, and Ducks</b> <i>continued</i>						<b>Rails</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Cinnamon teal	1	a	a	c	u	<sup>1</sup> *Virginia rail	1	u	u	u	r
<sup>1</sup> *Northern shoveler	1	c	c	c	u	<sup>1</sup> *Sora	1	u	u	r	
<sup>1</sup> *Northern pintail	1	c	u	a	c	<sup>1</sup> *Common morrhen	1	r	r		
<sup>1</sup> *Green-winged teal	1	c	u	c	c	<sup>1</sup> *American coot	1	a	a	a	c
<sup>1</sup> *Canvasback	1	a	a	a	u	<b>Cranes</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Redhead	1	a	a	a	u	<sup>1</sup> *Sandhill crane	3	c	c	c	
<sup>1</sup> *Ring-necked duck	1	c	o	o	c	<b>Plovers</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Lesser scaup	1	c	c	c	u	<sup>1</sup> Black-bellied plover	1	r			
<sup>1</sup> Bufflehead	1	u		c	c	<sup>1</sup> *Killdeer	3	c	c	c	r
<sup>1</sup> Common goldeneye	1	u		u	c	<b>Stilts and Avocets</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Barrow's goldeneye	1			r	r	<sup>1</sup> *Black-necked stilt	1	u	c	u	
<sup>1</sup> Hooded merganser	1	o		o	o	<sup>1</sup> *American avocet	1	u	c	u	
<sup>1</sup> Common merganser	1	u		u	u	<b>Sandpipers and Phalaropes</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Red-breasted merganser	1	r		r	r	<sup>1</sup> Greater yellowlegs	1	o	o	o	
<sup>1</sup> *Ruddy duck	1	c	c	c	u	<sup>1</sup> Lesser yellowlegs	1	o	o	o	
<b>Osprey, Kites, Hawks, and Eagles</b>						<sup>1</sup> Solitary sandpiper	1	r		r	
<sup>1</sup> Osprey	1	r		r		<sup>1</sup> *Willet	3	u	u	o	
<sup>1</sup> > <i>Bald Eagle</i>	10			o	o	<sup>1</sup> *Spotted sandpiper	1	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> *Northern harrier	10	c	c	c	c	<sup>1</sup> *Long-billed curlew	3	c	c		
<sup>1</sup> Sharp-shinned hawk	10	o	o	o	r	<sup>1</sup> Marbled godwit	1,3	r			
<sup>1</sup> Cooper's hawk	10	o	o	o	o	<sup>1</sup> Western sandpiper	1	r		r	
<sup>1</sup> Northern goshawk	8,5	o	o	o	o	<sup>1</sup> Least sandpiper	1	o		o	
<sup>1</sup> Red-shouldered hawk	10	r		r		<sup>1</sup> Long-billed dowitcher	1	o		o	
<sup>1</sup> Swainson's hawk	10	o	o	o		<sup>1</sup> *Common snipe	1,2	u	c	u	u
<sup>1</sup> *Red-tailed hawk	10	c	c	c	o	<sup>1</sup> *Wilson's phalarope	1	o	o	o	
<sup>1</sup> Ferruginous hawk	10	o	o	o	o	<sup>1</sup> Red-necked phalarope	1	o		o	
<sup>1</sup> Rough-legged hawk	3,4	u		u	c	<b>Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls and Terns</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Golden eagle	10	u	u	u	o	<sup>1</sup> Franklin's gull	1	r	r	r	
<b>Falcons and Caracaras</b>						<sup>1</sup> Ring-billed gull	1	o	o	u	
<sup>1</sup> *American kestrel	3	c	c	c	u	<sup>1</sup> *California gull	1	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> Merlin	3,4			o	o	<sup>1</sup> Caspian tern	1	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> Peregrine falcon	10	r		r	r	<sup>1</sup> *Forster's tern	1	c	c	u	
<sup>1</sup> *Prairie falcon	7,3	u	u	o	r	<sup>1</sup> *Black tern	1	c	c	u	
<b>Gallinaceous Birds</b>						<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Chukar	6,3	o	o	o	o	<sup>1</sup> Rock dove	9	o	o	o	o
<sup>1</sup> *Himalayan snowcock	8	u	u	u	u	<sup>1</sup> *Mourning dove	10	c	c	c	r
<sup>1</sup> *Sage grouse	4,3	u	u	u	u						
<sup>1</sup> *Blue grouse	8,5	u	u	u	u						

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W	Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Barn Owls</b>						<sup>1</sup> Ash-throated flycatcher	5,2	r	r	r	
<sup>1</sup> Barn owl	10	r	r	r	r	<sup>1</sup> *Western kingbird	2,9	c	c	c	
<b>Typical Owls</b>						<b>Shrikes</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Western screech-owl	5				r	<sup>1</sup> *Loggerhead shrike	4,3	u	u	u	o
<sup>1</sup> *Great horned owl	2,7	c	c	c	c	<sup>1</sup> Northern shrike	4,3				u
<sup>1</sup> *Burrowing owl	3,4	o	o	o		<b>Vireos</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Long-eared owl	5,2	o	o	o	o	<sup>1</sup> Cassin's vireo	2,5,8	o		o	
<sup>1</sup> *Short-eared owl	3,4	u	u	u	o	<sup>1</sup> *Plumbeous vireo	2,5,8	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> *Northern saw-whet owl	5	o	o	o	r	<sup>1</sup> *Warbling vireo	2	u	u	u	
<b>Nightjars</b>						<sup>1</sup> Red-eyed vireo	2	r		r	
<sup>1</sup> *Common nighthawk	10	c	c	u		<b>Crows, Jays, and Magpies</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Common poorwill	5,4	u	u	u		<sup>1</sup> *Western scrub-jay	5	c	c	c	c
<b>Swifts</b>						<sup>1</sup> *Pinyon jay	8,5	u	u	u	c
<sup>1</sup> *White-throated swift	7	u	u	u		<sup>1</sup> *Clark's nutcracker	8,5	o	o	o	o
<b>Hummingbirds</b>						<sup>1</sup> *Black-billed magpie	10	c	c	c	c
<sup>1</sup> *Black-chinned hummingbird	6,2	u	u	u		<sup>1</sup> *American crow	10	o	u	u	o
<sup>1</sup> *Calliope hummingbird	8,5	u	u	u		<sup>1</sup> *Common raven	10	c	c	c	c
<sup>1</sup> *Broad-tailed hummingbird	2,5	c	c	u		<b>Larks</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Rufous hummingbird	???	o	u	u		<sup>1</sup> *Horned lark	3,4	c	c	c	c
<b>Kingfishers</b>						<b>Swallows</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Belted kingfisher	2	u	u	u	o	<sup>1</sup> *Tree swallow	2,3	c	c	a	
<b>Woodpeckers</b>						<sup>1</sup> *Violet-green swallow	2,7	c	c	a	
<sup>1</sup> *Lewis's woodpecker	2,6	u	u	u	r	<sup>1</sup> *Northern rough-winged swallow	7	c	c	c	
<sup>1</sup> *Red-naped sapsucker	2,5	o	o	u		<sup>1</sup> Bank swallow	3	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> *Williamson's sapsucker	8,5	o	o	o		<sup>1</sup> *Cliff swallow	9,7	a	a	a	
<sup>1</sup> *Downy woodpecker	2,5	u	u	u	u	<sup>1</sup> *Barn swallow	9	c	c	c	
<sup>1</sup> *Hairy woodpecker	2,5	u	u	u	u	<b>Titmice and Chickadees</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Northern flicker	2,5	c	c	c	u	<sup>1</sup> *Mountain chickadee	5	u	u	u	c
<b>Tyrant Flycatchers</b>						<sup>1</sup> *Juniper titmouse	5	u	u	u	c
<sup>1</sup> Olive-sided flycatcher	8,5		o			<b>Bushtits</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Western wood-pewee	5,2	u	u			<sup>1</sup> Bushtit	5	u	u	u	u
<sup>1</sup> *Willow flycatcher	2	o	o			<b>Nuthatches</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Hammond's flycatcher	8,5	o	o			<sup>1</sup> *Red-breasted nuthatch	8,5	u	u	u	u
<sup>1</sup> *Gray flycatcher	5	u	u	u		<sup>1</sup> *White-breasted nuthatch	8,5	o	o	o	o
<sup>1</sup> *Dusky flycatcher	8,4,5	u	u	u		<b>Creepers</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Corilleran flycatcher	2,5	u	u			<sup>1</sup> *Brown creeper	8,5	u	u	u	?
<sup>1</sup> *Say's phoebe	3,9	c	c	c							

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W	Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Wrens</b>						<sup>1</sup> *Yellow-rumped warbler	2,9	c	c	c	r
<sup>1</sup> *Rock wren	7	u	u	u	r	<sup>1</sup> *Black-throated gray warbler	5	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> *Canyon wren	6,7	o	o	o	r	<sup>1</sup> Northern waterthrush	2	r		o	
<sup>1</sup> *House wren	2	c	c	c	o	<sup>1</sup> *MacGillivray's warbler	2	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> Winter wren	2	r		r	r	<sup>1</sup> *Common yellowthroat	1,2	c	c	u	r
<sup>1</sup> *Marsh wren	1	a	a	a	u	<sup>1</sup> Wilson's warbler	2	u		u	
						<sup>1</sup> *Yellow-breasted chat	2	u	u	u	
<b>Dippers</b>						<b>Tanagers</b>					
<sup>1</sup> American dipper	2	u		u	u	<sup>1</sup> *Western tanager	5	u	u	u	
<b>Kinglets</b>						<b>Sparrows and Towhees</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Golden-crowned kinglet	7				u	<sup>1</sup> *Green-tailed towhee	4	u	u	u	r
<sup>1</sup> *Ruby-crowned kinglet	7,2	u		u	u	<sup>1</sup> *Spotted towhee	2,4,6	u	u	u	o
<b>Old World Warblers</b>						<sup>1</sup> American tree sparrow	2,9			o	o
<sup>1</sup> *Blue-gray gnatcatcher	7	c	c	u		<sup>1</sup> *Chipping sparrow	5	u	u	u	
<b>Thrushes</b>						<sup>1</sup> *Brewer's sparrow	4	a	a	a	
<sup>1</sup> *Mountain bluebird	8,5	c	c	c	r	<sup>1</sup> *Vesper sparrow	4,3	c	c	c	
<sup>1</sup> *Townsend's solitaire	8,5	u	u	u	u	<sup>1</sup> *Lark sparrow	4	u	u	u	r
<sup>1</sup> *Swainson's thrush	2	u	u	u		<sup>1</sup> *Black-throated sparrow	4,6	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> *Hermit thrush	2,5	o	o	o	r	<sup>1</sup> *Sage sparrow	4	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> *American robin	2,9	c	c	a	o	<sup>1</sup> *Savannah sparrow	3	a	a	a	
<b>Mimic Thrushes</b>						<sup>1</sup> Grasshopper sparrow	3	r	r	r	
<sup>1</sup> Gray catbird	2	r	r	r		<sup>1</sup> *Fox sparrow	8,2	u	u	u	o
<sup>1</sup> *Northern mockingbird	2,9	o	o	o	r	<sup>1</sup> *Song sparrow	2,1	c	c	c	c
<sup>1</sup> *Sage thrasher	4	c	c	c		<sup>1</sup> Lincoln's sparrow	2	r	r	r	
<b>Starlings</b>						<sup>1</sup> White-throated sparrow	2			r	r
<sup>1</sup> *European starling	9	c	c	c	o	<sup>1</sup> Golden-crowned sparrow	2			r	r
<b>Wagtails and Pipits</b>						<sup>1</sup> *White-crowned sparrow	2,4	u	o	u	o
<sup>1</sup> American pipit	8	o		o	o	<sup>1</sup> Harris's sparrow	9	r		r	r
<b>Waxwings</b>						<sup>1</sup> *Dark-eyed junco	8,5	c	o	u	c
<sup>1</sup> Bohemian waxwing	10				r	<b>Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and Allies</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Cedar waxwing	2,9	u	u	u	o	<sup>1</sup> *Black-headed grosbeak	2,5	u	u	u	
<b>Wood warblers</b>						<sup>1</sup> Blue grosbeak	2,3	r	r	r	
<sup>1</sup> *Orange crowned warbler	2	u	u	u		<sup>1</sup> *Lazuli bunting	2	u	u	u	
<sup>1</sup> Nashville warbler	2,5	o		o		<sup>1</sup> Indigo bunting	3	r	r		
<sup>1</sup> *Virginia's warbler	5,6	u	u	u		<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b>					
<sup>1</sup> *Yellow warbler	2	c	c	c		<sup>1</sup> *Bobolink	3	r	r	r	
						<sup>1</sup> *Red-winged blackbird	1,3	u	c	c	u
						<sup>1</sup> *Western meadowlark	3	a	a	a	o
						<sup>1</sup> *Yellow-headed blackbird	1	a	a	c	r

**Blackbirds and Orioles** continued next page

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b> <i>continued</i>					
<sup>1</sup> *Brewer's blackbird	10	c	c	c	o
<sup>1</sup> *Great-tailed grackle	1,9	u	u	u	o
<sup>1</sup> *Brown-headed cowbird	10	c	c	c	
<sup>1</sup> *Bullock's oriole	2	c	c	c	
<b>Finches</b>					
<sup>1</sup> Gray-crowned rosy-finch	8				o
<sup>1</sup> *Black tony-finch	8				o
<sup>1</sup> *Pine grosbeak	8,5	o	o	o	o
<sup>1</sup> *Cassin's finch	8,5	u	u	u	u
<sup>1</sup> *House finch	2,9	u	u	u	o
<sup>1</sup> Red crossbill	8	r	r	r	r
<sup>1</sup> *Pine siskin	8,5	u	u	u	o
<sup>1</sup> Lesser goldfinch	3,2		u	u	r
<sup>1</sup> *American goldfinch	3,2	u	u	u	o
<sup>1</sup> Evening grosbeak	5	o		o	r

#### Old World Sparrows

<sup>1</sup> *House sparrow	9	u	u	u	o
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#### Accidentals

Least Bittern	Eastern kingbird
Little blue heron	Scissor-tailed flycatcher
Eurasian wigeon	Steller's jay
Greater scaup	Blue jay
Oldsquaw	Black-capped chickadee
Surf scoter	Western bluebird
White-winged scoter	Varied thrush
California quail	Blackpoll warbler
Bonaparte's gull	American redstart
Mew gull	Louisiana waterthrush
Band-tailed pigeon	Rose-breasted grosbeak
Yellow-billed cuckoo	Common grackle
Flammulated owl	

#### Mammals at Ruby Lake

The following list includes those mammals found on the refuge and adjacent lands. Species that are suspected to occur in the area or have an unknown abundance (?) and those that have been identified only prior to 1940 (h) are also included. All are considered residents except the migrant species of bats. Visibility of mammals varies seasonally because of hibernation, migration between summer & winter ranges, or snow cover. The common names and order follow "A Field Guide to the Mammals" by Burt and Grossenheider (1976).

Common Name	Habitat	Abundance
<b>Shrews</b>		
<sup>1</sup> Merriam shrew	4	?
<sup>1</sup> Vagrant shrew	3	u
<sup>1</sup> Northern water shrew	8,2	?

#### Bats

<sup>1</sup> Little brown myotis	7,9	c
<sup>1</sup> Long-eared myotis	9,7	c
<sup>1</sup> Long-legged myotis	9,7	?
<sup>1</sup> Small-footed myotis	7,5	c
<sup>1</sup> Silver-haired bat	5,9	r
<sup>1</sup> Western pipistrel	7,6	?
<sup>1</sup> Big brown bat	5,7,9	?
<sup>1</sup> Hoary bat	5	?
<sup>1</sup> Spotted bat	9,7	?
<sup>1</sup> Western big-eared bat	7,9	?
<sup>1</sup> Pallid bat	7,3	?
<sup>1</sup> Mexican freetail bat	7	r

#### Mustelids

<sup>1</sup> Shorttail weasel	2,3	r
<sup>1</sup> Longtail weasel	2	u
<sup>1</sup> Mink	1,2	?
<sup>1</sup> Badger	10	c
<sup>1</sup> Spotted skunk	4,2	r
<sup>1</sup> Striped skunk	9,4	r

Common Name                      Habitat                      Abundance

### Canids

<sup>1</sup> Coyote                      10                      c  
<sup>1</sup> Red fox                      10                      ?

### Felines

<sup>1</sup> Mountain lion                      8,6                      u  
<sup>1</sup> Bobcat                      8,4                      u

### Squirrels

<sup>1</sup> Yellowbelly marmot                      7                      u  
<sup>1</sup> Townsend ground squirrel                      4,3                      ?  
<sup>1</sup> Richardson ground squirrel                      4,3                      ?  
<sup>1</sup> Belding ground squirrel                      3,4                      c  
<sup>1</sup> Golden-mantled squirrel                      8,5                      u  
<sup>1</sup> Whitetail antelope squirrel                      4                      ?  
<sup>1</sup> Least chipmunk                      4,5                      c  
<sup>1</sup> Uinta chipmunk                      5,7                      r

### Pocket gophers

<sup>1</sup> Valley pocket gopher                      3                      ?  
<sup>1</sup> Northern pocket gopher                      10                      c

### Pocket Mice/Kangaroo Rats

<sup>1</sup> Little pocket mouse                      4                      ?  
<sup>1</sup> Great Basin pocket mouse                      4                      c  
<sup>1</sup> Dark kangaroo mouse                      4                      u  
<sup>1</sup> Ord kangaroo rat                      4                      c  
<sup>1</sup> Great Basin kangaroo rat                      4                      c

### Beaver

<sup>1</sup> Beaver                      1,2                      r

### Mice and Voles

<sup>1</sup> Western harvest mouse                      3                      u  
<sup>1</sup> Canyon mouse                      6,7                      h  
<sup>1</sup> Deer mouse                      10                      c  
<sup>1</sup> Piñon mouse                      5,7                      h  
<sup>1</sup> Northern grasshopper mouse                      3,4                      ?  
<sup>1</sup> Desert woodrat                      4                      ?  
<sup>1</sup> Bushytail waoodrat                      8,7                      u  
<sup>1</sup> Mountain vole                      3                      c  
<sup>1</sup> Longtail vole                      2,3                      u  
<sup>1</sup> Sagebrush vole                      4                      ?  
<sup>1</sup> Muskrat                      1                      c

Common Name                      Habitat                      Abundance

### Old World Rats and Mice

<sup>1</sup> House mouse                      9                      c

### Jumping Mice

<sup>1</sup> Western jumping mouse                      8,2                      ?

### Porcupines

<sup>1</sup> Porcupine                      2,5                      c

### Hares and Rabbits

<sup>1</sup> Whitetail jackrabbit                      4,3                      r  
<sup>1</sup> Blacktail jackrabbit                      4,3                      c  
<sup>1</sup> Mountain cottontail                      4,7                      c  
<sup>1</sup> Pygmy rabbit                      4                      u

### Deer

<sup>1</sup> Elk                      3                      o  
<sup>1</sup> Mule deer                      10                      c

### Pronghorn

<sup>1</sup> Pronghorn                      3,4                      u

### Goats and Sheep

<sup>1</sup> Mountain goat                      8,7                      u  
<sup>1</sup> Bighorn sheep                      8                      r

### Fishes at Ruby Lake

Seven species of fish are present in refuge waters. The **relict dace** is the only native to the marsh. This species is present in only a few other basins in northeastern Nevada. A small population of **Lahontan speckled dace** persists in the marsh from a 1950 stocking. **Largemouth bass** were introduced to the marsh in the early 1930s and have successfully reproduced. **Rainbow, eastern brook, and brown trout** are stocked annually into the collection ditch, marsh, and spring ponds; occasional stockings of **cutthroat trout** also take place.



### Amphibians and Reptiles

Reptiles usually are found on upland sites and amphibians live closer to or in water. Both reptiles and amphibians hibernate during the winter and therefore are only seen during the warmer months. Because they are relatively small, secretive animals, they are not highly visible to the refuge visitor. Great Basin rattlesnakes and Gopher snakes are most often seen crossing roads. Lizards are occasionally seen around the shrub uplands while frogs are seen along the marsh's edge. A species list has not yet been compiled for this area.

### Viewing Wildlife

The best time to observe wildlife is during morning and evening hours. Binoculars or a spotting scope greatly assist in identifying wildlife and observing their behavior. Using your vehicle as a blind increases viewing opportunities; wildlife viewing from a vehicle can be done by driving the refuge auto tour route through the marsh. For a unique opportunity to see marsh wildlife close up, the South Marsh is open during part of the year to canoes and small motor boats.

### For further information, contact:

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